
New Stamp Issuing Entity

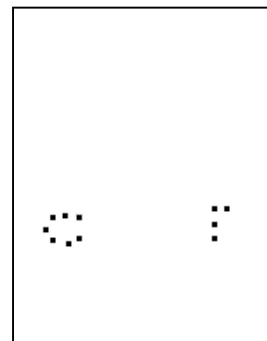
Bob Szymanski (LM-145)

It's always a thrill to look through a pile of perfin. Sometimes I find new issues or a nice cancel. When I'm lucky I might even add a perfin or two to my collection. However, what happened several months ago transcends even my wildest perfin dreams!

I received a nice lot from a dealer who saves perfins for me. You might imagine my surprise when I received my first Port Said perfin. Though these are not easy to find, I have been roundly ribbed by many of my perfin collecting comrades (who have one or two Port Said perfins) as to what kind of French specialist could I possibly be without a Port Said. Aha! Now, finally, I had one and could hold my head high and with a smile announce that "I have a Port Said"! This was the feeling that I had for at least 30 seconds, And, no, the vacuum cleaner did not suck up the stamp!

A little further down in the pile of perfins was the one shown - Vathy. VATHY! VATHY!!! I've perused the Ancoper French Perfin Catalog frequently enough to know that Vathy is not listed as a stamp issuing entity with a known perfin! Check again, still no listing. Check Scott's for the stamp

with the overprint and check the overprint -- looks OK. Check the dates this stamp was used and the Socked-on-the-Nose cancel date and all checks. E-mail my friend and fellow Perfin Club member and editor of the French perfin catalog, Robert Dedecker, -- "c'est magnifique"! Wow! a new stamp issuing entity and it is in my specialty area. I think I know a little of what "seventh heaven" must feel like!



In Color

I hope that this prints well enough for everyone to see the "c . L" of the Credit Lyonnais Bank and the cancel of 30 JANV 01 from Vathy (the Capital) of the Island of Samos in the Aegean Sea.
